Forgotten Heroes, Forgotten Wars

Reunion 2006 to salute Korean, Vietnam War vets

"Forgotten heroes, forgotten wars." That is the theme of the 2006 AMA alumni reunion, held the last weekend of April, as we honor those who wore our country's uniform during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Reunion Chairman Luke Snyder,

'60, said, "One of the Vietnam War's greatest tragedies is that those who served then were not honored when they came home. And the Korean War has been largely forgotten as it came between the great World War II and Vietnam. We want to thank Augusta alumni who served during those tough times."

Plans call for a new AMA Museum exhibit detailing the participation of Augusta alumni in the two conflicts. It is hoped that the display will be ready in time for Reunion 2006.

The reunion will have its usual events: an "early bird" reception Thursday night 27 April, golf and tennis on Friday 28 April plus a luxury



The Roller Rifles at Reunion 2005.

motor coach tour of nearby historic spots,wineries and eateries, the Awards Banquet Friday night where AMA Legacy Scholarships and AMA Alumni Medals are handed out, the Roller Rifles exhibition on Saturday 29 April together with a luncheon in the AMA Gym with Former AMA Battalion Commander Roger Messick, '52, in a tribute to the AMA alumni who were in uniform during the

Korean and Vietnam War. Special remembrance of those killed in action in those wars, Founders Day ceremonies and the traditional Saturday night barbecue, and finally, a **Sunday morning** prayer breakfast.

The Friday tour will explore President James Madison's country in and near Orange. Nearby are the Civil War battlefields of Chancellorsville,

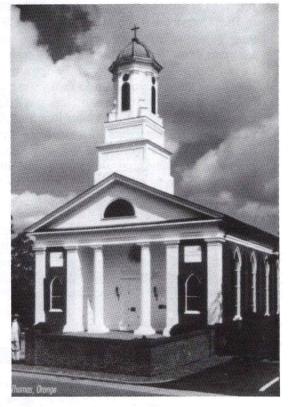
Fredericksburg, Salem Church, The Wilderness, Cedar Mountain, Brandy Station, Spotsylvania and Mine Run. The ruins of the Barboursville Estate speak to another day. There is Native American, Colonial, Revolutionary War, Civil War and modern era history all about. As they say in Orange County, exposure to all this makes "a native out of a newcomer."

Travel on a portion of the Blue Ridge Parkway. Peek into

God has created!



Barboursville Vineyards, one of several stops for wine-tasting and views of the beautiful Virginia countryside on the Priday tour. Whether or not you drink wine, you'll be intoxicated by the scenery.



St. Thomas Church in Orange, Virginia, General Robert E. Lee's church, 1863-64. We'll visit this historic place of worship on the Friday luxury motor coach tour.

Mosby's Confederacy. And for those who know this area, there is no reason to explain why Graves Mountain Lodge has been chosen for the lunch stop. For 135 years, this family owned mountain retreat offers all the astonishingly delicious home cooked food one can eat while being unrivaled for natural beauty. After lunch, sit on the big porch and look at what

Augusta Military Academy Alumni Association Reunion 2006

As winter brings it's cleansing chill to your doorstep, there is news of warmth and welcome waiting for you at our next gathering. Planning for Reunion 2006 is well under way and it will be here sooner than you think. Taking the time, this instant, to make your travel plans and to register is my best advice. This coming April, I was looking forward to seeing an old friend I've not seen in over 30 years. He promised to attend this year's reunion for sure, but I received word he passed away recently. I'll always wish I'd tried harder to find him. Don't let this happen to you.

The Theme for this year's Reunion is, "Forgotten Wars....Forgotten Hero's". This will be the beginning of our five year objective of honoring our vets as well as our brothers who made the uffimate sacrifice in the Korean and Vietnam Wars. Roger Messick, '52, an Army helicopter pilot in Vietnam and former AMA Battalion Commander, will be our Saturday noon speaker. Friday's motor coach tour will be special as Frank Williamson, '60, and Bob Hume, '63, have teamed up again to make the trip to Graves Mountain memorable.

Some new things this year. Saturday's Founders Day Ceremony will be held before lunch rather than after. (We'll eat about 30 to 45 minutes later than usual) Luke Snyder, '60, is working on a firing squad for the graveside event. (If this doesn't work out, we'll still have our cannon) The Roller Rifles will make another appearance (Yes !!!!) and the Saturday evening event will conclude in the Ball Room at the Holiday Inn where we'll also close out what promises to be another very successful Silent Auction.

Many thanks to all the volunteers and AMA Museum staff who help pull the reunion together. It's a labor of love for so many. It takes months and months to plan, strategize and execute our annual reunions. The many who make it happen are rewarded by those that attend and enjoy the weekend. So, please make plans to attend and be sure to thank those who make it happen.

I'm hopeful you'll take the time to return the blue registration form today. Then, right after you've applied the stamp, reach out; call your old roommate, your long-time friend or the AMA Brother you've not seen in years and invite him to join you in the Shenandoah Valley April 27-30, 2006. You'll be glad you did!

Garry Granger, 71

President, AMA Alumni Association



CLASS AGENTS

1936 - Tom Roller

1946 - NONE, yet

1956 - NONE, yet

1966 - NONE, yet

1971 - Garry Granger

1976 - Jim Mitchell - 1981 - Todd Livick

Tower of Power goal is \$1,000+

Again in 2006, **Frank Williamson**, **`60**, plans to make *at least* \$1,000 on the sale of Tower of Power tickets.

There actually is a tower (see Frank at right with the Tower and its contents). Inside, is a bottle of Virginia Gentleman, a bottle to be held until the last surviving AMA alumni share it in a toast to the old school.

At Reunion 2006, Frank and his helpers will sell tickets on chances for bottles of the precious liquid which will be given away several times during the reunion. Frank and Bev donate the booze so all proceeds from ticket sales go to the AMA Alumni Foundation. Plan now to help us raise at least \$1,000 once again this year!



What do you have for the 2006 SILENT AUCTION?

Every AMA Reunion gives the attendees an opportunity to buy some spectacular things at reasonable prices.

And since all of the items for sale are donated, all of the money collected goes directly to AMA!

So, what do you have in your basement, garage, or your closet that you were going to sell "one of these days?" How about donating such things to the AMA Silent Auction for which you can take a tax decuction.

The Silent Auction Chairman is **Dave Conrad**, `59, who does an outstanding job every single year. Please tell Dave or anyone at the AMA Museum that you will be bringing a special item or items to the auction, and we'll be on the lookout for it.

Already, we have in the auction two First Class and two coach tickets on American Airlines, courtesy of Tom DelValle,`73



Whether or not you have something to donate, make it a point to bid on the great items you will see at the reunion! The Silent Auction begins at 8 AM on Friday 28 April and will end precisely at 8:30 PM on Saturday 29 April at the Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center, headquarters for Reunion 2006. All Silent Auction items can be seen there.

REGISTER EARLY AND YOU'LL SAVE!

You can save 10% on your registration and meal functions by registering BEFORE 15 APRIL 2006

See complete details on the enclosed blue registration form

Don't be disappointed! Make your hotel reservations NOW for Reunion 2006!

HEADQUARTERS HOTEL Holiday Inn Golf and Conference Center

\$82 a night + tax 1/800/932-9061 or 540/248-6021

OFFICIAL HOTEL Quality Inn

\$52.99 + tax Thursday night \$62.99 Friday and Saturday nights

The two hotels listed above are at Exit 225 off I-81 at Virginia Route 275. Most functions will be at the Holiday Inn.

OTHER STAUNTON HOTELS

Comfort Inn 1302 Richmond Avenue \$60 single - \$66 double + tax 540/886-5000

> Microtel Inn 200 Frontier Drive \$64 + tax 540/887-0200

Guesthouse Inn 42 Sangers Lane \$59.99 + tax 540/885-3117 Best Western 92 Rowe Road \$60 + tax 540/885-1112

Staunton Sleep Inn 222 Jefferson Highway \$62 + tax 540/887-6500

HARRISONBURG

Best Western I-81 at Exit 247A \$54 + tax 540/433-6089

The AMA Alumni Association does NOT make hotel reservations! Make your hotel reservations early, and be sure to send in the BLUE reunion registration form.

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7:30 PM Awards Banquet

9:30 PM Hospitality Tent reopens

SATURDAY 29 APRIL

7:30 AM Continental breakfast

8:30 AM Annual membership meeting

.... Alumni House/Museum open

11:30 AM . Founders Day ceremonies

Colors, Massanutten Military Academy

. . . . Soupie by Bugler Phil Myers, `71

Speaker: Major Roger Messick, '52,

honoring Augusta's Korean and

Messick remarks followed by

ceremony - speaker (invited)

with the Army Band (invited)

recognition and welcome home

Augusta Stone Church Cemetery

Alumni who have passed on since

Reunion 2005 will be remembered

Firing squad, USAR, Staunton

Band, USAR, Roanoke (invited)

VMI bagpiper pipes group

into AMA Gymnasium

Vietnam War veterans

AMA Gymnasium

Luncheon

Holiday Inn Ballroom Hallway

Holiday Inn Ballrooms

AMA Alumni Medals

Special presentations

Honor Classes

Hospitality Tent

Holiday Inn

AMA Blacktop

Speaker (invited)

followed immediately by

AMA Alumni Board of Directors

Display of military equipment

Courtesy of Marc Mehler

AMA Scholarship Awards

The Silent Auction continues

THURSDAY 27 APRIL			
10:00 AM			
Noon - 4 PM Early Bird registration Hospitality Tent and PX open Holiday Inn			
Noon - 1 PM Casual golf tee times Location to be announced			
5:00 - 7:00 PM . Early Bird Reception Staunton Country Club			
7:30 PM Hospitality Tent reopens Holiday Inn			
All evening			
FRIDAY 28 APRIL			
9:00 AM - 6:30 PM Registration Hospitality Tent and PX open Holiday Inn			
8:00 AM Silent Auction begins Holiday Inn registration area			
8:30 AM Golfers register/photos Staunton Country Club			
8:30 AM Motor coach tour Lunch at Graves Mountain Lodge Meet in parking lot nearest the Hospitality Tent Motorcoach courtesy of Bob Hume, `63 Hosted by			
Bev and Frank Williamson, `60			
9:00 AM AMA Open Golf Tournament Staunton Country Club Contact: Mickey Toms, `67 [cmtoms@earthlink.net]			
10:00 AM			
1:00 PM Tennis Staunton Country Club Contact: Blaine Clarke, `72 [nuroses53@aol.com]			
4:30 PM Motor coach tour returns			
All evening			

5:30 - 6:30 PM AMA Reception
Hospitality Tent
Attire: Coat and tie

Taps and cannon

7:00 PM Cash bar opens

Immediately following luncheon, proceed to the Parade Ground for:

Drill exhibitions by

Massanutten Military Academy
and the reconstituted Roller Rifles
with USAR Band, Roanoke (invited)

Immediately following exhibitions, Knock out drill exercises led by Sergerant Major Helms of MMA with inspection by VMI cadets

2:30 PM Alumni House/Museum open

3:00 PM Sporting clays shoot Flying Rabbit Harrisonburg Contact: Blaine Clarke, `72 [nuroses53@aol.com]

4:30 PM Alumni House/Museum closes

5:00 PM Retreat Sunset Party
Class meetings and class photos
Hospitality Tent

6:30 PM Cash bar opens Holiday Inn Ballroom Hallway

Final two hours Silent Auction bidding

7:00 PM until . . . Dinner and dancing with a DJ, Holiday Inn Ballroom

Final opportunity for Tower of Power and final drawing

8:30 Silent Auction closes precisely at 8:30 PM

SUNDAY 30 APRIL

9:00 AM Prayer breakfast Coach Bill Ralph (invited) Holiday Inn



AMA Legacy Awards

Three \$3,000 scholarships will be awarded at reunion

Is your son or daughter —
Your grandson or granddaughter —
Your great-granddaughter or great-grandson
in college or about to go to college?

Then, you'll want to get an application for an AMA Legacy Scholarship right away!

Three scholarships, each worth \$3,000, will be awarded at Reunion 2006.



Completed applications must be returned no later than 24 March 2006!

The AMA Legacy Scholarships are awarded each year to the direct descendants of AMA alumni who are 25 years of age or less, and are either enrolled in (or about to enroll in) an institution of learning past the high school level. Children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, etc., of alumni are eligible to apply whether they are natural born, adopted, or step-children, grandchildren, etc.

The awards are paid directly to the institutions.

Chris Meek, '84, Scholarship Chairman, says that two of the awards will be based on academic excellence and extracurricular activities while the third may be given to a worthy applicant whose academics are not perfect but whose leadership qualities excel. Completed applications must be received by 24 MARCH 2005 in order that judging may be completed and the winners notified before the reunion.

Winners will be invited to the Awards Banquet on Friday 28 April during Reunion 2006.

To obtain a scholarship application, write to:
Scholarships, AMA Alumni Foundation,
P. O. Box 100, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0100
Phone: 540/248-3007 or FAX 540/248-4533
E-mail: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

Time to nominate AMA alumni and friends for Alumni Medals

Nominations for the 2006 AMA Alumni Medals are now being solicited. This will be the eighth year that these medals have been awarded to those who have given extraordinary service to the AMA Alumni Association and/or the AMA Foundation. Recipients will be announced at the Awards Banquet Friday evening 28 April during Reunion 2006.

Individuals nominated should have done some very special thing for Augusta or may have with a series of smaller contributions done great service to AMA. Those who have received medals in the past may receive them again though members of the Medals Committee are not eligible in the year they serve on the committee.

The members of the 2006 Medals Committee are Bob Bradford, `50, Chairman; Garry Granger, `70; Frank Williamson, `60, John Hash, `75, Gary Nicholson, `70, and Rod Willey, `51.

2005 winners were Reverend Greg Douglas, Colonel Will Parkins, `35, Joe Salicrup, `31, Hap Starr, `51, and Norvell West, `83.

Other past winners were Paul Bratton, `48, Ed Chauncey, `49, Bob Hume, `63, the late Ronnie Mahanes,

`53, Bobby Rhea, `47, Frank Spencer, `49, Jim Councill, `49, George Holt, `60, Julian Quarles, `35, the late Hilton Roller Grasty, Dave Conrad, `59, Duke Fancher, `58, Bob Harris, `54, Sergeant Joe Josephson, Sergeant Don Studer, Goodloe Saunders, `57, Steve Trent, `70, Jerry Wildman, `57, Ben Zinkhan, `60, Gordon Metz, `68, B.J. d'Orsay, `70, Chief Chester Cole, the late Mickey Gordon, `39, Tommy Simmons, `52, Steve Pearson, `72, V.P. Leavel, `39, the late Bill Gray, `37, and Ed Click, `50.

Nicholson, Willey, Williamson and Bradford also were AMA medalists.

AMA alumni, faculty and friends are entitled to nominate deserving individuals for the honor. The medals can be awarded to AMA alumni, AMA faculty members or to AMA friends. *Deadline to make nominations: 31 March 2005.*

Nominations should be submitted to:
AMA Medal, AMA Alumni Association
P. O. Box 101, Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101
FAX 540/248-4533
E-mail: AMAAlumniHouse@aol.com

The Roller Rifles - One more time in 2006

By Jim Hash, '72

The night my son was born, Don Studer and I sat in the expecting father's waiting room until it was time for me to do my "Lamaze thing". I doubt my participation in the birthing process actually held any significance whatsoever, as my wife was delirious during the whole event and couldn't have differentiated between me and Peewee Herman, Still, I have to admit, I walked out of the delivery room with the knowledge that I had witnessed a miracle. Admittedly, it's a small miracle (unless you're the one with your legs in the stirrups) that occurs countless times all around the world, but a miracle

I witnessed another small miracle about eight months ago, and I'm teetering on the possibility of believing that it was, in some ways, more of a miracle than human birth. Certainly, a pregnant woman coming to full term happens often enough...thousands of times a day. But the miracle to which I refer only happened once in the last 19 years - and oh, it was a sight to behold. Okay, perhaps "miracle" is a bit strong, but truly, what I observed that day was nothing short of extraordinary, an event of monumental proportions. As a bystander, I was filled with pride and awe that not only could this event take place, but could be executed with a considerable amount of precision.

Of course, I speak of the re (constituted, incarnated, established, born, generated, built, fabricated, created - pick one) Roller Rifles. For those of you who marched last year, you fellas polished my heart, thank you. That event alone was worth whatever physical discomfort I endured to make the drive from Georgia.

I don't know how many of you realize how good you actually looked. I retired from the Army in '94, so my memory of active duty soldiers is not that far back. I can assure you, that you fellas looked at least as good or better than 95% of the guys with whom I served. Of course you looked good in large part because you had the Band Company drum corps to keep you in step while the onlookers became weak-kneed as the beat resonated through the barracks.

Some of you may need a little jogging of the memory, but I'd like you to take a look at the faces shown in the picture below. I see a lot more than camaraderie in those faces. I see genuine pride and acknowledgment that not only did you look good, but you damn well enjoyed yourselves doing it.

This year, there has been an ongoing drive to have the Roller Rifles march again. Many members of last year's team



have expressed interest in christening the parade field with the sound of our drums, boots, rifles and cadences. However, we haven't heard from all of last year's members and we'd like to add another ten to twelve additional marchers. Unless you have trashed the uniform while doing vard work or deer hunting, it ought to be good for at least ONE more trip around the Clay Bowl. So please, break out the iron and put a few creases in those pants, so we can better the Massanutten MA cadets who also will march that day.

Anyway, if you plan on marching again or if you would like to join the legendary drill team, please send Tom Del Valle, '73, a confirmation no later than 15 February 2006. His e-mail is tom.del.valle@aa.com or tomrdelvalle@comcast.net, or you can call him at 817/ 967-2430. The cost for this much fun tends to run about 120 dollars and you get to keep all the stuff!! Tom and I hope to see you at the 2006 Gathering of the Clan.

Ad Astra per Aspera!

Tennis. anvone?

Do you want to play tennis during Reunion 2006? If so, we need to hear from you NOW, not when you show up at the reunion. Plans need to be made and courts reserved. Tennis at our reunions has been a great event until the last couple of years. WE NEED A MINIMUM OF FOUR PLAYERS for doubles on Friday afternoon 28 April.

Contact Blaine Clarke, '72, at 301/540-6455, or by e-mail at: nuroses53@aol.com. Do it now, please.

How about sporting clavs?

Would you like to participate in a sporting clay shoot on Saturday afternoon, or on Sunday morning 29-30 April at Reunion 2006? If so, we need to hear from you soon. You can bring your own weapon or one will be furnished to you. WE NEED A MINUMUM OF FOUR SHOOTERS in order to reserve the time at the Flying Rabbit Range.

Contact Blaine Clarke, '72, at 301/540-6455, or by e-mail at: nuroses53@aol.com Please do it now.

SIGN UP NOW FOR

THE 2006 AMA GOI

We REALLY need your help in getting "goodies" for the blavers!

In past years, we have been able to obtain some very nice prizes for the players. But not lately! We're looking for caps, balls, golf tees, towels, umbrellas and

We'll also take cash!

If you can help us make the tournament a success, please get in touch with Lewie Kennett, '72 786 Paradise Acres Drive Boones Mill, VA 24065 540/420-3456

4 person team scramble (Captain's choice) Use every player's tee shot twice - Lowest score wins!

Proceeds to the AMA Alumni Foundation

Everyone welcome - men, women and teens

PRIZES: 1st, 2nd & last place! Best putt! Longest drive! Closest to the pin!

Drawing for Mulligan Prizes! \$10 per Mulligan Limit, 2 per player

FEES: \$100* per person includes 18 holes, greens fees, cart, refreshments, box lunch, goody bags, prizes and a donation to AMA. * Includes two mulligans!

STAUNTON COUNTRY CLUB Friday 28 April at 9:00 AM Shotgun start

Deadline to enter: 15 April

THE 2006 AMA GOLF OPEN SIGN-UP

Yourname			Class	
Address				
Phone ()		e-mail		
Handicap, or last t	hree scores	The Grand Company of the Company of		
			Class	
□ We have a foursome	_		Class	
	Class		Class	
	Class	_	Class	
Make ch	eck to: AMA Alu	mni Association		

GOLF, c/o AMA Alumni Association Mail form to:

P. O. Box 101. Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101 (Photocopy OK)

Friday reunion trip goes to President Madison's country

The Friday luxury motorcoach tour will take reunion goers to President James Madison's country where Revolutionary and Civil War sites abound. Formed in 1734, Orange County, Virginia has some of the most heavily fought-over ground in America. The Revolutionary War brought the

Marquis de Lafayette and his army to Orange County and the county's boundary on the Rapidan River became part of the northern border of the Confederacy during the Civil War.

General Lee's pew

The tour will begin at the St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Orange (see photo on page 1) which has seen a tremendous amount of colonial and Civil War history. Here, those who so wish may sit in General Robert E. Lee's pew.

From Orange, the tour will go to Gordonsville past the

meadow from which the Second Manassas and Antietam campaigns were launched in the Civil War. There will be a visit to the Exchange Hotel, a highly acclaimed museum on Civil War weapons, uniforms, medicine and transportation.

Our motorcoach, donated by **Bob Hume**, `63, will then travel along the world famous Blue Ridge Parkway with breathtaking views in all directions.

Lunch at Graves Mountain

This short ride will bring us to our luncheon stop: Graves Mountain Lodge. Anyone who knows this part of Virginia

knows what a treat we are in for! For 135 years, Graves Mountain has offered memorable food in copious quantities.

After lunch, there may be a stop at Yoder's Country Market, if there is time, or possibly a loop through the Rapidan Historic District or a drive through the grounds of

> James Madison's Montpelier. Barboursville is the site of the ruins of the 1882 Barboursville Mansion, designed by Thomas Jefferson (photo at left).

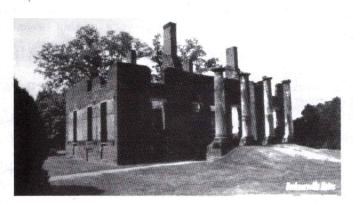
Wine tasting

Barboursville also is the home of one of Virginia's premier wineries. Orange Country produces more tons of wine grapes than any other Virginia county and the Barboursville vineyards are the focus of Wine Country Virginia. Of course, we will stop to sample these premium wines (see photo on page 1).

Everything on the tour is included in the \$37 per person charge – the luxury motorcoach, entry to all attractions, the fabulous lunch at Graves Mountain, and the wine tasting at Barboursville

Frank Williamson, `60, and Bev will host the group on the AMA tour. The motorcoach will be met by Frank Walker who is the lead guide for Tourguide, Limited. Walker is an expert on the history of the area from the Native American era through colonial times and the Civil War and its aftermath. A superb opportunity!

Sign up for the tour on the enclosed blue registration form!



The ruins of the 1822 Thomas Jefferson-designed Barboursville mansion.

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Post Office Box 101 Fort Defiance, VA 24437-0101

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization Postage and Fees Paid Augusta Military Academy Alumni Foundation, Inc.



27-28-29 APRIL IN STAUNTON